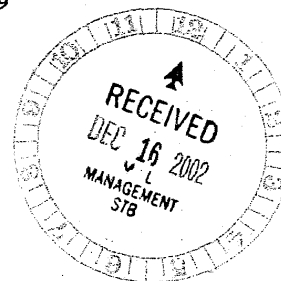




# THE COUNTY OF CHESTER

COMMISSIONERS:  
Colin A. Hanna, Chairman  
Karen L. Martynick  
Andrew E. Dinniman

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
601 Westtown Road, Suite 160  
P.O. Box 2747  
West Chester, PA 19380-0990  
610-344-6415 FAX: 610-344-5469  
[www.chesco.org/ccparks](http://www.chesco.org/ccparks)



December 9, 2002

Surface Transportation Board  
ATTN: Troy Brady  
Case Control Unit  
Washington DC 20423

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings

DEC 16 2002

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Public Record

**RE: Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1095X); Consolidated Rail Corporation;  
Abandonment Exemption - Lancaster and Chester Counties**

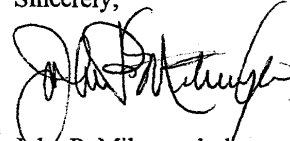
Dear Mr. Brady:

Chester County is responding to your request for comment (Service Date of October 24, 2002) regarding the proposed mitigation for the historical significance of Enola Line and its associated bridge structures.

While documentation of the bridges via photography and an interpretive display/video will help preserve the history of this marvel of early Twentieth Century engineering, we believe that it pales in comparison to the retention of these bridges, as well as the rail corridor in a contiguous state for recreational trail use. Admittedly, Chester County's interest in this line is tempered by the short length of the line within the County (approximately four miles or less). Also, the limitations of the line as it enter the Boroughs of Atglen and Parkesburg, with the line's proximity to active rail service, precludes its use for recreational purposes. Nevertheless, we believe the trail would have merit to Chester County if terminated in West Sadsbury Township or the western end of Atglen Borough. Chester County would support Lancaster County's efforts to maintain this rail-trail, via direct involvement for the Chester County portion only, or via grant incentives to affected municipalities in West Sadsbury Township, Atglen Borough, or Parkesburg Borough (the latter as the trail could be re-routed). These grant incentives, from the County's existing Open Space Grant program, could fund a substantial portion

of necessary trail improvements and recreational facilities, such as trailhead parking and picnicking areas, interpretive facilities, and other user amenities.

Sincerely,



John P. Mikowychok  
Director  
Dept. of Parks & Recreation

pc: County Board of Commissioners:  
Karen L. Martynick, Chairman  
Colin A. Hanna  
Andrew E. Dinniman  
Wayne R. Rothermal, Director of Government Services  
Robert C. Folwell, Capital Projects Coordinator  
William H. Fulton, Director, Chester County Planning Commission  
Jake S. Michael, Open Space Planner, Chester Co. Planning Commission